

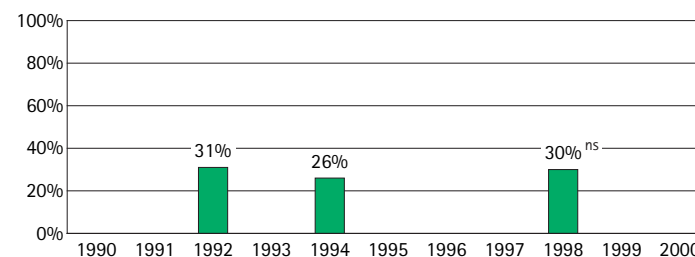
## 1. Improvement Over Time

Have Virginia's 4th graders improved in reading achievement?

*Not yet. Between 1992 and 1998, there was no significant change in the percentage of public school 4th graders who met the Goals Panel's performance standard in reading.*

*The Goals Panel has set its performance standard at the two highest levels of achievement – Proficient or Advanced – on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP.*

Percentage of public school 4th graders at or above Proficient on the NAEP reading assessment



<sup>ns</sup> Interpret with caution. Change was not statistically significant.  
Reading performance will be tested again in 2002.

## 2. State Comparisons<sup>†</sup>

How did Virginia compare with other states in 4th grade reading achievement in public schools in 1998?

**3 states had significantly higher<sup>1</sup> percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:**

|               |     |                            |     |
|---------------|-----|----------------------------|-----|
| Connecticut   | 46% | Massachusetts <sup>2</sup> | 37% |
| New Hampshire | 38% |                            |     |

**21 states had similar<sup>1</sup> percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:**

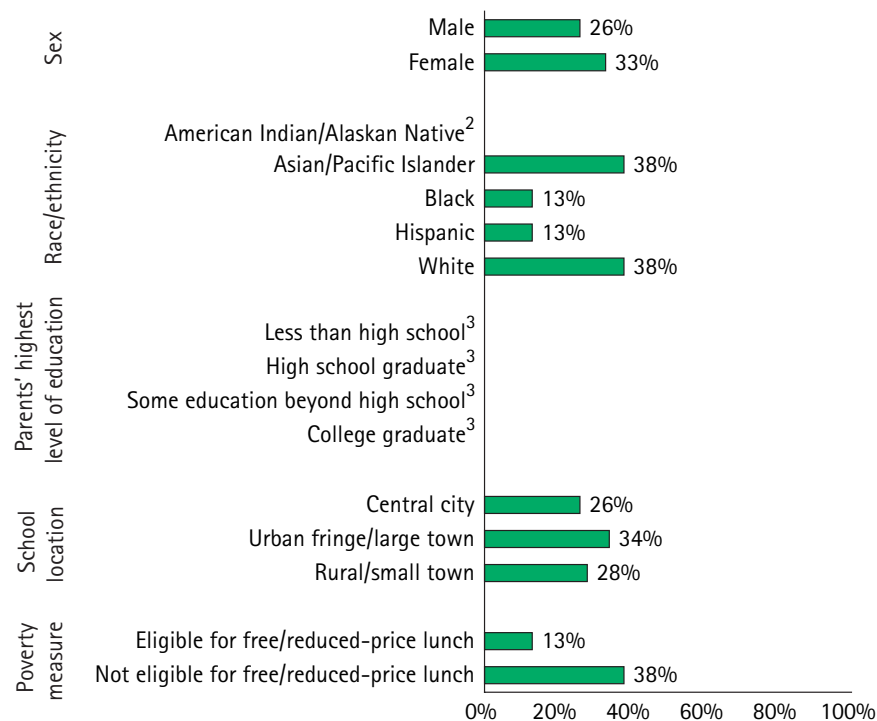
|                             |            |                                     |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Montana <sup>2</sup>        | 37%        | <b>Virginia</b> , Oklahoma, Wyoming | <b>30%</b> |
| Maine, Minnesota            | 36%        | Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri,       | 29%        |
| Iowa                        | 35%        | New York, Texas, Washington,        |            |
| Colorado, Kansas, Wisconsin | 34%        | West Virginia                       |            |
| Rhode Island                | 32%        | Michigan, North Carolina, Oregon,   | 28%        |
| <b>U.S.*</b>                | <b>31%</b> | Utah                                |            |

**16 states had significantly lower<sup>1</sup> percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:**

|                                     |     |                      |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Delaware, Tennessee                 | 25% | Louisiana            | 19% |
| Alabama, Georgia                    | 24% | Mississippi          | 18% |
| Arkansas, Florida                   | 23% | Hawaii               | 17% |
| Arizona, New Mexico, South Carolina | 22% | District of Columbia | 10% |
| Nevada                              | 21% | Virgin Islands       | 8%  |
| California                          | 20% |                      |     |

## 3. Subgroup Performance

What percentages of public school 4th graders in different subgroups<sup>1</sup> in Virginia were at or above Proficient on the 1998 NAEP reading assessment?



<sup>†</sup> The term "state" is used to refer to the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories.

<sup>1</sup> See explanation on pp. 2-3.

<sup>2</sup> State may appear to be out of place; however, statistically its placement is correct. See pp. 2-3.

\* Figure shown for the U.S. includes both public and nonpublic school data.

<sup>1</sup> Interpret differences between subgroups with caution. See pp. 2-3 and Appendix D.

<sup>2</sup> Characteristics of the sample do not permit a reliable estimate.

<sup>3</sup> No data reported for 4th graders by parents' highest level of education in 1998.

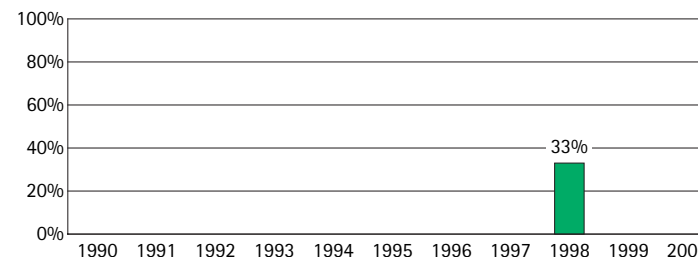
## 1. Improvement Over Time

Have Virginia's 8th graders improved in reading achievement?

*In 1998, 33% of Virginia's public school 8th graders met the Goals Panel's performance standard in reading. Improvement over time will be reported when reading is assessed again in 2002.*

*The Goals Panel has set its performance standard at the two highest levels of achievement – Proficient or Advanced – on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP.*

Percentage of public school 8th graders at or above Proficient on the NAEP reading assessment



Reading performance will be tested again in 2002.

## 2. State Comparisons<sup>†</sup>

How did Virginia compare with other states in 8th grade reading achievement in public schools in 1998?

**2 states had significantly higher<sup>1</sup> percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:**

Connecticut, Maine 42%

**18 states had similar<sup>1</sup> percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:**

|   |            |                                |            |
|---|------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Montana                                   | 38%        | Washington                     | 32%        |
| Minnesota                                 | 37%        | Maryland, North Carolina, Utah | 31%        |
| Massachusetts                             | 36%        | Colorado, Rhode Island         | 30%        |
| Kansas                                    | 35%        | Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma,  | 29%        |
| New York                                  | 34%        | Wyoming                        |            |
| <b>U.S.,* Virginia, Oregon, Wisconsin</b> | <b>33%</b> | <b>Texas<sup>2</sup></b>       | <b>28%</b> |

**17 states had significantly lower<sup>1</sup> percentages of students who were at or above Proficient on NAEP:**

|                      |     |                            |     |
|----------------------|-----|----------------------------|-----|
| Arizona <sup>2</sup> | 28% | California, South Carolina | 22% |
| West Virginia        | 27% | Alabama                    | 21% |
| Tennessee            | 26% | Hawaii, Mississippi        | 19% |
| Delaware, Georgia    | 25% | Louisiana                  | 18% |
| Nevada, New Mexico   | 24% | District of Columbia       | 12% |
| Arkansas, Florida    | 23% | Virgin Islands             | 10% |

<sup>†</sup> The term "state" is used to refer to the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories.

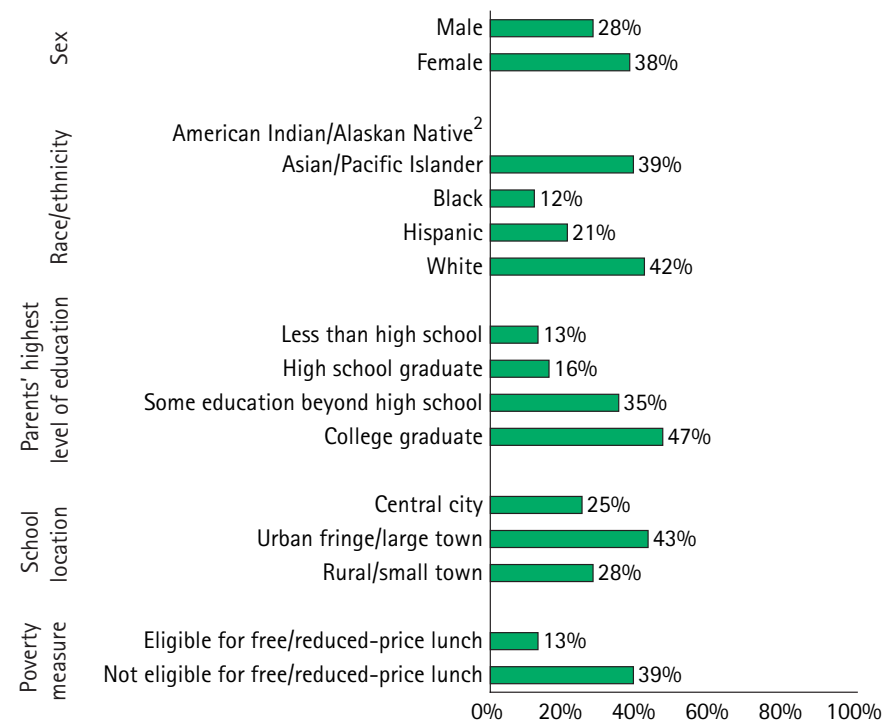
<sup>1</sup> See explanation on pp. 2-3.

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## 3. Subgroup Performance

What percentages of public school 8th graders in different subgroups<sup>1</sup> in Virginia were at or above Proficient on the 1998 NAEP reading assessment?



<sup>1</sup> Interpret differences between subgroups with caution. See pp. 2-3 and Appendix D.

<sup>2</sup> Characteristics of the sample do not permit a reliable estimate.